

1. A method for detecting a Map infection in an animal, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (A) providing a biological sample from the animal; and
 - (B) subjecting the biological sample to PCR using primers J1 and J2, wherein the presence of an amplification product specific for Map in the PCR reaction mixture indicates that the animal is infected with Map.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the Map infection is a subclinical infection.
- 10 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the animal is a cow.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the biological sample is blood.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the biological sample is milk.
- 15 6. A method for detecting a Map infection in an animal, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (A) providing a biological sample from the animal; and
 - (B) subjecting the biological sample to nested PCR using at least a first pair of primers for amplifying the ISO900 region of the Map genome and a second pair of primers for amplifying a portion of the amplified ISO900 region, wherein the presence of an amplification product specific for Map in the PCR reaction mixture indicates that the animal is infected with Map.
- 25 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the first pair of primers are primers P90 and P91.
8. The method of claim 6, wherein the second pair of primers are primers J1 and J2.
9. The method of claim 7, wherein the second pair of primers are primers J1 and J2.

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10. The method of claim 6, wherein the Map infection is a subclinical infection.
11. The method of claim 6, wherein the animal is a cow.
- 5 12. The method of claim 6, wherein the biological sample is blood.
13. The method of claim 6, wherein the biological sample is milk.
14. The method of claim 6, wherein the first set of primers consist of the primers P90
10 and P91.
15. A purified nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.
16. A purified nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
- 15 17. A kit for detecting a Map infection in an animal, the kit comprising a first pair of
primers for amplifying the ISO900 region of the Map genome and a second pair of primers for
amplifying a portion of the amplified ISO900 region.
- 20 18. The kit of claim 17, wherein the first pair of primers are primers P90 and P91.
19. The kit of claim 17, wherein the second pair of primers are primers J1 and J2.
20. The kit of claim 18, wherein the second pair of primers are primers J1 and J2.

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